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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/828,468 | 04/19/2004 | Kunio Maruyama | 72314/JPW/KBC | 5213 |

7590 12/23/2004

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| EXAMINER |
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WEINER, LAURA S

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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DATE MAILED: 12/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner for Patents

Applicant response filed on December 6, 2004 is non responsive because the application contains claims directed to distinct species as cited in paragraph number 5 of the office action mailed 11-4-04.

The election of Group I, claims 1-10, 21 has been noted.

Applicant is required to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTHS, DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura S Weiner whose telephone number is 571-272-1294. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Laura S Weiner
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1745